PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: S-9R

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being faxed to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (571) 273-8300 on the date below:

On January 26, 2006

By Michelle Nicely

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent of: Lewis Sharps et al.

Original Patent No. 6,602,248

Original Issue Date: August 5, 2003

Reissue Application No.: 10/682,600

Title: METHODS FOR REPAIRING DAMAGED INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS

Examiner: Lee Cohen

Art Unit: 3739

REPLY AND AMENDMENT

Box Reissue
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is responsive to the Office Action, mailed January 12, 2006, that sets a one-month period for a response. Should any fees be necessary in connection with this application Authorization is hereby given to charge Account No. 50-0359.

Reissue Application No.: 10/682,600 Atty. Docket No.: S-9R
Inventor: Lewis Sharps et al.

AMENDMENT

Please amend the specification beginning at page 1, line 4 as follows:

This application is a REISSUE application of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/676,194, filed September 28, 2000. U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/676,194, filed September 28, 2000 [The present invention] claims priority from U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/224,107, filed Aug. 9, 2000, and U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/676,194, filed September 28, 2000, is also a continuation-in-part application of [and from] PCT Application No. 00/13706, filed May 17, 2000. PCT Application No. 00/13706 is a continuation of [, and from] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/316,472, filed May 21, 1999 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,624,650), which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/295,687, filed Apr. 21, 1999 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,203,542) and U.S. patent application Ser. Nos. 09/054,323 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,063,079) and 09/268,616 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,159,208), filed Apr. 2, 1998 and Mar. 15, 1999, respectively, each of which are continuation-in-parts of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/990,374, filed Dec. 15, 1997 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,109,268), which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/485,219, filed on Jun. 7, 1995 (now U.S. Patent No. 5,697,281), the complete disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference for all purposes. [This application] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/676,194, filed September 28, 2000, is also a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/026,851, filed Feb. 20, 1999 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,277,112), which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/690,159, filed Jul. 18, 1996 (now U.S. Patent No. 5,902,272), the complete disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference for all purposes.

The present invention is related to commonly assigned U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/181,926, filed Oct. 28, 1998, U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/130,804, filed Aug. 7, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,045,532, U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/058,571, filed on Apr. 10, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,142,992, U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/248,763, filed Feb. 12, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,149,620, U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/026,698, filed Feb. 20, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,620,155, U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/074,020, filed on May 6, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,363,937, U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/010,382, filed Jan.

21, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,190,381,U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/032,375, filed Feb. 27, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,355,032 ,U.S. patent application Ser. Nos. 08/977,845, filed on Nov. 25, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 6,210,402; 08/942,580, filed on Oct. 2, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 6,159,194, U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/753,227, filed on Nov. 22, 1996, now U.S Patent No. 5,873,855,U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/687,792, filed on Jul. 18, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,843,019, and PCT International Application, U.S. National Phase Ser. No. PCT/US94/05168 filed on May 10, 1994, now U.S. Pat. No. 5,697,909, which was a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/059,681, filed on May 10, 1993, now abandoned, which was a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 07/958,977, filed on Oct. 9, 1992 now U.S. Patent No. 5,366,443, which was a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 07/817,575, filed on Jan. 7, 1992, now abandoned, the complete disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference for all purposes. The present invention is also related to commonly assigned U.S. Pat No. 5,697,882, filed Nov. 22, 1995, the complete disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference for all purposes.

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

FEB 10 2006

PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: S-9R

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being faxed to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (571) 273-8300 on the date below:

On January 26, 2006

By Michelle Nicely

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent of: Lewis Sharps et al.

Original Patent No. 6,602,248

Original Issue Date: August 5, 2003

Reissue Application No.: 10/682,600

Title: METHODS FOR REPAIRING DAMAGED INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS

Examiner: Lee Cohen

Art Unit: 3739

REPLY AND AMENDMENT

Box Reissue
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is responsive to the Office Action, mailed January 12, 2006, that sets a one-month period for a response. Should any fees be necessary in connection with this application Authorization is hereby given to charge Account No. 50-0359.

Reissue Application No.: 10/682,600 Atty. Docket No.: S-9R
Inventor: Lewis Sharps et al.

AMENDMENT

Please amend the specification beginning at page 1, line 4 as follows:

This application is a REISSUE application of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/676,194, filed September 28, 2000. U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/676,194, filed September 28, 2000 [The present invention] claims priority from U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/224,107, filed Aug. 9, 2000, and U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/676,194, filed September 28, 2000, is also a continuation-in-part application of [and from] PCT Application No. 00/13706, filed May 17, 2000. PCT Application No. 00/13706 is a continuation of [, and from] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/316,472, filed May 21, 1999 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,624,650), which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/295,687, filed Apr. 21, 1999 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,203,542) and U.S. patent application Ser. Nos. 09/054,323 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,063,079) and 09/268,616 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,159,208), filed Apr. 2, 1998 and Mar. 15, 1999, respectively, each of which are continuation-in-parts of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/990,374, filed Dec. 15, 1997 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,109,268), which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/485,219, filed on Jun. 7, 1995 (now U.S. Patent No. 5,697,281), the complete disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference for all purposes. [This application] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/676,194, filed September 28, 2000, is also a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/026,851, filed Feb. 20, 1999 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,277,112), which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/690,159, filed Jul. 18, 1996 (now U.S. Patent No. 5,902,272), the complete disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference for all purposes.

The present invention is related to commonly assigned U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/181,926, filed Oct. 28, 1998,U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/130,804, filed Aug. 7, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,045,532,U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/058,571, filed on Apr. 10, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,142,992,U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/248,763, filed Feb. 12, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,149,620, U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/026,698, filed Feb. 20, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,620,155, U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/074,020, filed on May 6, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,363,937,U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/010,382, filed Jan.

21, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,190,381,U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/032,375, filed Feb. 27, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,355,032 ,U.S. patent application Ser. Nos. 08/977,845, filed on Nov. 25, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 6,210,402; 08/942,580, filed on Oct. 2, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 6,159,194, U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/753,227, filed on Nov. 22, 1996, now U.S Patent No. 5,873,855,U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/687,792, filed on Jul. 18, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,843,019, and PCT International Application, U.S. National Phase Ser. No. PCT/US94/05168 filed on May 10, 1994, now U.S. Pat. No. 5,697,909, which was a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/059,681, filed on May 10, 1993, now abandoned, which was a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 07/958,977, filed on Oct. 9, 1992 now U.S. Patent No. 5,366,443, which was a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 07/817,575, filed on Jan. 7, 1992, now abandoned, the complete disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference for all purposes. The present invention is also related to commonly assigned U.S. Pat No. 5,697,882, filed Nov. 22, 1995, the complete disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference for all purposes.